standing it overspread 452 square yards; the main trunk measured 9½ feet in diameter; it contained 2,426 feet of timber; five men were employed twenty days in stripping and cutting it down, and a pair of sawyers were constantly occupied 138 days in its conversion: a stone 6 inches in diameter was found in the body of the timber. The cubical contents of this tree so nearly correspond with those of the *Great Risca Oak*, near Newport (241), described in No. 93 of THE BUILDER, that we are disposed to think they are one and the same tree.

154. *The Winfarthing Oak*, which is asserted to have been at the time of the Conquest an old tree, is still existing.

155. *The Greendale Oak* we find described as being pierced by a road, over which it forms a triumphal arch, higher by several inches than the poets' postern at Westminster Abbey.

156. *Wallace's Oak* in Torwood, Stirlingshire, measured in the trunk in 1771, 22 feet in circumference; it is now completely gone: in it the hero generally slept when his army rendezvoused in the Torwood, during his war with Edward.

157. *Wallace's Oak* at Elderslie, Renfrewshire, wherein, when it was in full leaf, he and a large party of his followers hid themselves from the English, is still a noble tree, covering 19 poles of ground, and girting 21 feet at the ground.

158. *The King of the Wood*, on the estate of Fernyhirst, near Jedburgh, is a beautiful tall straight tree, girting 18 feet above the roots, and 11½ at 12 feet from the ground; it is 80 feet high, and tapers gradually for nearly three-fourths of its height.

159. *The Kepping* or *Trysting Tree*, growing near the preceding, is of a more spreading and picturesque character; it is upwards of 70 feet high, and covers an area of 90 feet in diameter: it girts 22 feet above the roots, whence it soon parts into two branches, girting respectively 14 and 11½ feet. These two trees are considered to be remnants of the great forest of Jedwood.

160. *Cowper's Oak*, near Olney, Bucks (but in Northamptonshire, on the Earl of Northampton's estate), so called from the poet's having frequently written under it, would accommodate in its hollow trunk a party of perhaps a dozen.

161. At Magdalen College, Oxford, close by the gate at the end of the Water-walk, there grew an oak to which William of Wainflete expressly referred when ordering his college to be founded "near the great oak." Gilpin considered that it could hardly merit that distinction if less than 500 years old, and it was therefore probably a sapling when Alfred the Great founded the university in 886; its height was 71 feet, its girth 29½ feet, its contents 751 feet; its branches extended to a radius of 16 yards on every side, and under it 3,000 men could have sheltered themselves with ease. On the 30th of June, 1789 or 1790, it fell to the ground; from its remains a chair has been made for the president of the college.

162. In the New Forest, Hants, survived, till about the middle of last century, the oak against which glanced in 1100 the arrow of Sir Walter Tyrrel which killed William Rufus; it was of exceeding large dimensions, and was, probably, at the period of its final decay, 900 years old. To preserve the memory of its site, the late Lord Delaware caused a monumental stone to be erected thereon, bearing appropriate inscriptions.

163. In Windsor Great Park, near Cranbourne-lodge, there are two magnificent oaks, one just within the park paling, and about 300 yards from the lodge, the other at the point of the road leading up to, and nearer it. The former at 6 feet from the ground measures 38 feet round, the latter at 4 feet from the ground 36 feet.

164. In Hampton-court-park, near the old stables, is perhaps the oldest oak in England; it measures 33 feet round.

165. In Ampthill-Park, Bedfordshire, is an oak which girts at its base upwards of 40, and at its centre nearly 30 feet; it is hollow, and would admit four or five persons to stand upright in it; it is evidently very aged: on a plate affixed to it is a poetic inscription.

166. In the Lower Charente, in France, about six miles W.S.W. of Saintes, on the road to Cozes, and in the court-yard of a modern mansion, stands a very remarkable example. See BUILDER No. 64.

167. In the *North American Review*, a writer remarks that the largest oak he has seen in that country is about 27 feet in circumference at the smallest part; he computes its age at not less than 500 years, so that it must have been a majestic tree when Columbus discovered the western world.

168. Dr. Plott, in his "History of Staffordshire," mentions one standing at Ryeote which would overshadow by its boughs 4,374 men.

169. In Loch Lomond, on Inch (or island of) Marin, is one remarkable for its fine expanse of head; in 1786 it girted 18 feet 1 inch.

170. At Earl Cowper's, Penshanger, Herts, there was growing in 1820 a fine healthy tree girting nearly 18 feet at 5 feet from the ground, and exceeding 75 feet in height.

171. At Lochwood, Annandale, not less than 900 feet above the level of the sea, one of a number of oaks of similar size girted 15 feet at 6 feet above the root.

172. At Blairquosh, Strathblane, Stirlingshire, one girted 15 feet at 4 feet from the ground; its spread was 90 feet in diameter.

173. At Yester, the Marquis of Tweeddale's, Haddingtonshire, one girted at 1 foot from the ground about 15½ feet, and at 6 feet about 14.

174. In Sherborne-park, the Earl of Digby's, in the autumn of 1843, a limb which contained upwards of five tons of sound timber dropped from an oak; yet its loss was scarcely noticed—so magnificent are the venerable trees there.

175. In Sherwood Forest, in felling and sawing up, within the last few years, some of the old oak trees, the letters K I and a crown were distinctly visible in the centre of them; indicating that they were saplings in the reign of King John, and had these characters then cut in their exterior layer of wood.

176. In Bushy-park there are some hexes, or ever-green oaks, of very large size.

177. In Cobham-park oaks of the following large dimensions were girthed at 3 feet from their roots:—

14 ft. 7 ins.	17 ft. 3 ins.
15 „ 7 „	20 „ 7 „
16 „ 3 „	21 „ 7 „
16 „ 5½ „	25 „ 5½ „

178. Early in the last century, the solid trunk of a gigantic oak was found beneath the level of Hatfield Chase, Yorkshire, which measured 120 feet in length, and whose circumference was 36 feet at the largest part, 30 feet in the middle, and 18 feet where the trunk was broken off; at a moderate calculation it was conjectured it might have been 240 feet in height.

179. In Loch Douchfour, in deepening the line of the Caledonian Canal, amongst some large masses of oak which were brought up from under a 16-foot bed of gravel at the bottom of the lake, one fragment measured 37 feet round, and contained the estimated cubic quantity of 220 feet, though evidently but a small portion of the original tree; the wood was black as ebony, hard, and perfectly fresh.

180. A remarkable instance of durability when buried in the ground, was afforded by a canoe found at a depth of 8 feet from the surface, in cutting drains through the fens of Lincolnshire, and which was hollowed out of an oak tree, of remarkably fine free-grained timber. Piles too were dug from the foundation of old Savoy-palace, London, built six centuries and a half before, and found to be in a state of perfect soundness.

181. The inner roof of the chapel of St. Nicholas, King's Lynn, Norfolk, was constructed upwards of four centuries and a half ago. The roof of Westminster Hall is about 450 years old. The rich carvings which ornamented the ceiling of the king's room in Stirling Castle, 300 years old, are still in good preservation. The staircase in Moreton-hall, Cheshire, winds round the trunk of an immense oak tree; the building is about 290 years old. The celebrated table in Dudley Castle is formed of a single plank, longer than the wooden bridge that crosses the lake in the Regent's-park, London.

182.—SWEET, OR SPANISH CHESNUT.—*The Totsworth Chesnut* is the oldest example in England: it stands in a garden at Totsworth, Gloucestershire, belonging to Lord Ducie; and is mentioned as a famous tree in the time of King John (born 1199, died 1216), who held a Parliament under it, and at which period some say it was a boundary-tree, while others say the reign of Stephen (born 1105, died 1154); tradition, however, carries it back to the days of the Saxon King, Egbert, who reigned from 799 to 837; and this much appears certain, that when used as a boundary mark, it must have attained some age, since saplings were not employed for that purpose. It is 19 yards in circumference; in 1788 it continued to produce fruit in considerable quantities, and of good flavour, though small.

183. *The Great Chesnut.* Bose mentions one near Lancerre, 30 feet round, which has borne this title for 600 years.

184. In Bushy-park, near the Queen's house, is a very fine one, said to have been planted by Charles II.

185. At Buckland there exists a remarkably fine specimen.

186. Of its durability, the roofs of King's College, Cambridge, and Notre Dame at Paris are cited as examples. Rondelet, however, doubts the latter, and says Buffon and D'Aubenton thought it a species of oak. Piles were found under old Savoy-palace, London, in a state of perfect soundness.

187. ELM.—*The Trysting Tree* at the Friars, near the old castle of Roxburgh, Teviotdale, where, in 1547, the Protector Somerset was met by the lairds of Cessford and Fernyhirst, with a number of the Scottish gentry, to swear homage to the young King of England, Edward VI., was, in 1796, found to measure 30 feet in girth. Its ruin still remains.

188. *King Charles's Swing*, in Hampton-court-park, is likely to become a stupendous tree. Two great limbs spring up from the trunk, which latter at 8½ feet from the ground measures 38 feet round; each limb is 40 feet high.

189. Near the last-mentioned there is another elm, estimated as containing 796 feet of timber; its trunk is 44 feet in height and 18 feet in circumference.

190. *The Giants.*—In the same park there are the remains of two elms known by this name, which must have been of enormous size; the trunk of one of them measures 28 feet in circumference.

191. Evelyn in his "Sylva" informs us of a wych elm which grew in the park of Sir Walter Baggot, Staffordshire, which was 17 feet in diameter at the base, and extended, when felled, 120 feet. It was estimated to contain 97 tons of timber.

192. Decandolle mentions a specimen which grew near the town of Morges, in Switzerland, measuring 17½ feet in diameter, and estimated at 335 years old; he informs us that it grew on the average 3½ lines yearly (that is, ⁷⁄₁₂ths of an inch), beginning with 6, and diminishing to 2½ths.

193. White, in his "History of Selborne," mentions a broad-leaved elm, or wych hazel, which, though it had lost a considerable leading branch in the storm of 1703, was, when felled, too bulky for a carriage, and contained eight loads of timber.

194. At Brignolle, near Toulon, is one under which a dance was performed before Charles IX. of France in 1564. Chancellor Michel de l'Hopital of that period speaks of it as an object worthy the attention of travellers.

195. *The Queen's Elm.*—At the north-west angle of Richmond Green may be seen the trunk of an ancient one, so called from having, it is said, been a favourite tree of Queen Elizabeth.

196. In St. James's Park, one of those near the entrance of the passage leading into Spring Gardens was planted by the Duke of Gloucester, brother to Charles I. As that unfortunate monarch was walking with his guards from St. James's to Whitehall, on the morning of his execution, he turned to one of his attendants, and mentioned the circumstance.

197. As a proof of the durability of elm when constantly wet, mention may be made that it was used chiefly for the piles on which Old London-bridge was founded, and these, though upwards of 600 years old, were found sufficiently sound to build upon again. Piles of it were also found under the old Savoy Palace perfectly sound.*

Erratum in No. 94.—In description of Hornbeam, 5th line, for "southward," read "northward."

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* [But we believe these and other piles, on exposure to the air, almost immediately decayed.—ED.]

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